

WorkFirst Partnership Training
Parking Lot Questions

From/Date	Question	Response
Train the Trainer 4/21/06	How do we plan on handling cases where people who, for whatever reason, don't have child care arranged prior to the conclusion of the CE Foundation, therefore aren't able to continue through the process immediately?	Open an XC component and allow 7 days to find adequate child care. Clearly document the circumstances and plan.
4/26/06 TOP	Can you please revise the CE Standards (04/04/06) to clarify whether parent active participation in all elements, including the interpretation of results, is essential or mandatory?	Revised the CE Standards (04/04/06) #14 to read, "Parent engagement and active participation in all of the elements, including the interpretation of results, is mandatory."
4/25/06 Region 3	Will TANF parents get a "retro" cash grant if they participate for the full 4 weeks during NCS?	<p>Parents who are closed by a sanction review panel and reapply for TANF must participate for 4 weeks in a row before they get a cash grant. Once they participate, a cash grant will be authorized back to the date they re-established financial eligibility.</p> <p>There will be another round of DSHS training to cover all of this in detail before we launch the non-compliance sanction changes this September.</p>
4/25/06 Region 3	Why does the Social Worker have to refer the parent back to the Case Manager for IRP development vs. doing it themselves?	The SW will inform the WFPS if the parent can be directed to the remainder of the CE. On the CE process, it is the WFPS's responsibility to manage the case, develop and update the IRP directing the parent to an employment.
4/25/06 Region 3	Is there going to be a way for us to connect into the L&I benefits system to see if our shared client might be receiving L&I payments that would disqualify them for TANF based on	There is a pending Work Request to add information from L&I to Spider (that's a web based system in acesonline that provides among other things, information about

	income?	other income sources for applicants/recipients). The requirements for this Work Request have not been written yet. We do not have a timeframe for implementation at this time.
5/1/06 Region 5	How will Domestic Violence and Chemical Dependency Out-Station workers (DSHS Contracted providers) be trained on these changes? Will they be attending these sessions too?	The work of contractors is defined within each contract. Because that role will not change with WorkFirst re-organization, training for DV and substance abuse contractors is not needed.
5/1/06 Region 5	Do Minor Dependent Teens go through the CE process? (Not minor teen parents)	No, minor dependent teens will not go through the CE process. The CE is designed for participating parents.
5/1/06 Region 5	Will ESD give the parent a copy of the Employment Plan? Will colleges give the parent a written copy of the Educational Evaluation results?	Both ESD and the colleges can give a copy of either the employment plan or the educational results. It is a good practice that is encouraged, but it is not a requirement of the program statewide.
5/1/06 Region 5	How will the CE Tool work for those cases that get referred back incomplete? Will a new tool have to be started? Will the parent be able to start at the point they left off? How will it work?	This will be covered in the agency specific training when the eJAS tool is covered. Basically, each new CE will require new documentation, but the information from the previous CE may be used if it is still relevant.
5/1/06 Region 5	<p>Child Care questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will child care be approved for a full time VE when there is no other work activity attached? 2. During the CE process, how much child care will be authorized? 	<p>Child care is available as a support service when a parent is eligible to participate in a VE component that meets WAC.</p> <p>If the parent requires child care to start and complete the CE, FT child care should be authorized to insure: 1) Coverage for any variances in the evaluation</p>

	<p>3. Will we be able to authorize childcare at the time a Foundation is completed even if the TANF application had to be pended for further verifications?</p> <p>4. How will reschedules be handled if it pushes the parent completion time frame beyond the initial child care approval?</p>	<p>schedules and 2) A smooth transition to full-time WorkFirst Activity.</p> <p>Child care is not needed for a pending parent at this time. The CE process and the need for child care will begin once the parent is approved for TANF.</p> <p>CE, no matter how long it takes, is an approvable WorkFirst activity supported by child care. Initial child care authorizations should be built to allow for the uninterrupted flow of a parent from CE start, to completion and then into a full-time employment pathway.</p>
5/1/06 Region 5	What are the criteria for referral to basic skills for a parent that already has a high school diploma? Is there a set cut off in CASAS scores for this population?	The criteria for approval are the same for any parent who needs basic skills.
5/2/06 Region 5	Are Sub 2 and Policy makers working with the Housing Authorities to ensure their requirements work with the new WorkFirst changes?	The Sub2 is very interested in developing a better relationship with the Housing Authorities. Sub2 plans to bring this before the Sub-Cabinet for policy consideration.
5/2/06 Region 5	Will child care be available for part time VE if engaged in "work activity" that is not employment?	WAC 388-290-0040 allows for child care coverage for approved WorkFirst activities. As long as the client is enrolled and participating in the activity according to current WorkFirst WAC guidelines, then child care will cover the activity.

From/Date	Question	Response
5/5/06 Region 4	Will DSHS use support service dollars for clients in full time school or training programs?	Yes, the DSHS worker of record can issue WorkFirst support services for approved full-time training/school if this cost is not covered by the college tuition. (See Support Services by Component in the WorkFirst Handbook section 2.2 for the list of support services available for educational components.)
5/5/06 Region 4	Will DVR, DDD, substance abuse treatment providers and other similar partners have access to evaluations and participation in eJAS?	DVR, DDD, CDC and other similar providers are considered contractors. Contractors can have access to eJAS when there is a business need and a data share is signed to allow the access. Access to different sections of eJAS is determined by the business requirements.

From/Date	Question	Response
5/9/06 Region 4	If a customer is being deferred to a social worker, do they complete the CE? Do we put RO in eJAS?	For urgent issues, the WFPS will open CE to refer to the SW and the SW will make the determination if the person is able to continue with the CE process or whether it is appropriate to close CE and open an X component. For P to E employment cases, the WFPS must enter the CE and the RO simultaneously. DSHS worker may want to review local area policies.
5/9/06 Region 4	Can the CE process be started while application is pending? (If not, won't we lose the customer)?	The Foundation portion of the CE may be started, but before the parent can be referred to the remainder of the CE, the parent must be determined eligible for TANF.
5/9/06 Region 4	If a client is in an XG or XF component, but not participating in any JS or JT, are they	Parents in XG or XF are not necessarily required to

	required to do those things as well (JS or JT)?	participate in JS or JT . However, we strongly encourage bundled services for those parents in which their circumstances do not put them at further risk or harm.
5/9/06 Region 4	What happens to those who no show for the evaluation?	The DSHS worker determines whether the parent had good cause for not showing up. It is up to the parent to participate as required.
5/9/06 Region 4	BE component added work activity for at least 20 hrs. or Work Study for 16-19 hours. What is the philosophy behind this change?	This is a continuation of existing policy, not a change. What is new is the opportunity for a parent to attend BE on a full-time basis. This is approvable if full-time programs are available and if the parent has fully participated in job search for twelve weeks without finding a job.
5/9/06 Region 4	Under bundling scenario: If parent is involved in a fulltime unauthorized activity, could/would they then be assigned to a full time approved WF component?	Yes. The parent must be participating in a WorkFirst approved activity, or in a combination of approved activities adding up to full-time, to be in compliance.
5/9/06 Region 4	The term "parent" is used frequently. Does that mean we will no longer focus on dependent teens age 16-19? Preventative activities with this group can keep teens from becoming welfare parents.	The program has not changed its focus on preventative activities. Our primary participants in employment pathway activities are TANF parents.
5/9/06 Region 4	If a client has lost job or is about to lose job for lack of transportation, can DSHS or ESD provide bus passes or travel gas assistance?	During the CE process, DSHS can provide support services. Also, policy allows for TANF parents to receive support services to keep a job for up to six months after exiting TANF.

From/Date	Question	Response
5/10/06 Region 4	BE toward HWHD – What is the intention of bundling BE with a 20 hr. work activity?	Parents must be participating full-time in approved activities. Basic Education is very rarely a full-time activity. So, to make it approvable, BE must be bundled with a work activity. In addition, the combination of work and education make both much more effective overall.
5/10/06 Region 4	RE: Social Worker Assessment – Once documented in CE, can we enter a corresponding component or do we have to document again? (i.e. Mental health issues documented in CE, do I have to write notes in case narrative under “mental health” to enter XG?	Currently, you need to have the related note in CE before you can enter an X code (e.g., mental health note type to enter XG). However, there is a work request that will allow Assessment entries instead, so you can enter related X components without additional CE note entries.

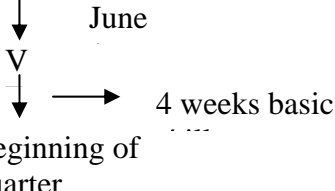
From/Date	Question	Response
5/11/06 Region 4	Why and how can a person be enrolled in full time basic skills and part time job search activities?	It is very rare that full-time BE activities exist. They are approvable if they are available and if the parent has fully participated in job search for twelve weeks without finding a job. It is much more likely that basic skills will be part-time combined with a part-time work activity.
5/11/06 Region 4	It makes no sense to allow CJST or VE or HWHD to go get training for a job with no work requirement. <u>BUT</u> people who are in ABE, GED who really need training are required to do a work requirement. Why?	Federal regulations allow for full-time vocational training in some circumstances, but not for full-time basic skills education as an allowable, countable activity.
5/11/06 Region 4	With so much fall-out around sanctions plans, how do DSHS employees maintain credibility if we begin educating clients about full family sanction and then it doesn’t work or is not	What is different about this policy is that it comes directly from Governor Gregoire’s directive and with

	<p>carried out due to stake holders/new legislation around 9/1/06? We are concerned about having our credibility severely compromised.</p>	<p>her support. Many resources have been committed to these changes and it is clear that that there will be a new way of doing business in WorkFirst.</p> <p>The best approach to maintaining credibility is not to “sell” the policy as a punishment for non-participation but as a commitment to improve and provide supports to help parents find jobs, keep jobs and achieve self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Be honest and up-front with parents and remind them that they need to participate or lose the support of the TANF program.</p>
5/11/06 Region 4	<p>In regards to Native Americans with access to reservations or living on reservations with tribal colleges and resources: are they given any leeway or different ways of engagement in terms of statewide policy?</p>	<p>Native Americans who are accessing tribal TANF are subject to rules and policies of the tribal TANF program. Native Americans on state-operated TANF go through engagement and CE process as determined by the state policy, but can be referred for local specialized services, as available. They may also participate in traditional Native American activities offered by tribes, as decided locally.</p>
5/11/06 Region 4	<p>Should DSHS be telling parents to contact their L&I worker (if on L&I) to notify them of their eligibility for “dependent children?” Why does L&I NOT ask them that question up front and opening their claim?</p>	<p>DSHS staff do not have control over L & I policies and procedures. We remind parents that L&I may be available to make sure they know and can access these benefits.</p>

From/Date	Question	Response
5/12/06 Region 4	CE component: countable as full time or counted like RO's?	CE is a countable, part-time component. Staff should enter 10 hours per week for 2 weeks.
5/12/06 Region 4	Can DVR be made more accessible for parents, due to their long waiting list?	This has been an on-going issue. DVR must follow a federally mandated "order of selection" and provide services to those with the most severe level of disability first. Therefore, DVR is unable to give priority access to WorkFirst parents.
5/12/06 Partnership Training Region 4	How do we build rapport with a parent who has no intention of telling their reality? Example – working under the table and want TANF to supplement their income.	The situation described is a difficult one, and very real in some cases. However, it is the intention of the program to work with parents to improve their families' situation by providing services to help them find and keep a job to the extent possible.

From/Date	Question	Response
May 8 –10 Region 2	As of June 1 st , a pending TANF applicant will not be eligible to go thru the CE process and will not be eligible for child care. Once sanction clients are terminated on 2/28/07 and reapply in March, their case will be pending for 4 weeks of participation before they will be eligible for TANF. How will they get child care and/or go thru JS/CE if they stay pending?	WAC has been changed so that a pending parent can get child care to participate in an approved WorkFirst activity to cure the sanction (WAC 388-290-0020).
May 8 –10 Region 2	Bundling of Services: It was stated in the training that only activity other than part-time education is employment activity. Can we also bundle outpatient or mental health treatment with education.	To get federal reporting credit, part-time training must be bundled with a work activity.
May 8 –10 Region 2	As part of the foundation, when severe DV issue is present do we refer to SW (Per Flow Chart) or to the DV Advocate (provider)?	Follow your office process. Either refer to the Social Worker or DV Advocate for intervention based on your

		office referral procedure.
May 8 –10 Region 2	While a person is in sanction, will there be any requirements by workers to get those people engaged in WorkFirst? Will the review board be looking at what if anything was done to engage the client during that six month period? i.e. home visits	<p>The non-compliance sanction process focuses heavily on engagement and client accountability.</p> <p>Per WAC 388-310-1600, staff must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempt to contact sanctioned parents in some way to encourage them to participate and discuss the advantages of participation and how to cure sanction. • Attempt a home visit to discuss the same information if the parent fails to show up for her or his non-compliance case staffing. <p>The review panel will look at what attempts staff made to re-engage parents before they decide whether to end cash benefits.</p>
May 8 –10 Region 2	If a household is in sanction and does not complete CE evaluation then becomes terminated due to NCS sanction: Q. How do we track their participation prior to their re-opening TANF? Q. When does CE process start? After 4 weeks of Coop & the TANF gets re-opened?	<p>At this time there is a modification being made to eJAS that will allow for the tracking of pending TANF cases in eJAS.</p> <p>In this particular scenario participation in the CE process could be used as part of the 4-week cure prior to TANF reopening.</p> <p>[Normally, the CE is scheduled as soon as we place the family in sanction and is part of the 4-week cure.]</p>
May 8 –10 Region 2	LEP Question- I understand that: After an LEP parent has gone through the foundation	The RIA (Refugee and Immigrant) staff are

	<p>section of CE and has been referred to the LEP pathway, he/she then takes the CASAS test and is placed in an ESL class. Within the ESL class he will have an educational interview to focus on goals, as the next part of the CE to make it similar to the mainstream CE. My question is, will the LEP college pathway provider then have to fill in the college evaluation section on EJAS? And, If non-English speaking parents are not referred to the LEP pathway in the foundation section of CE, do they take the rest of the comprehensive evaluation in the same way as all other parents? Does this then require a bi-lingual testing component?</p>	<p>currently working with LEP pathway providers to develop the LEP comprehensive evaluation process. The details have yet to be worked out.</p>
<p>May 8 –10 Region 2</p>	<p>How long can a parent remain in “other” activities while waiting for school to begin? Is</p>  <p>there a limit? Example: Employment Pathway</p>	<p>Training must be available to begin within four weeks to be a viable option for parents. The parent may participate in other activities relevant to the training for those four weeks.</p>
<p>May 8 –10 Region 2</p>	<p>Is it possible to have transitional child care, so when the client finds employment they will continue same co-pay for 6 months? Similar to TFA and Transitional Medical.</p>	<p>Currently when a parent receives additional income during a child care eligibility period, the new income typically does not effect the co-payment until the next eligibility period. This time frame can range from 1-6 months. There are no plans to adjust this policy but this suggestion will be passed along to policy staff for consideration.</p>
<p>May 8 –10 Region 2</p>	<p>We need to or do we have special I-Best trainings for convicted felons? We have a population that would benefit from this: with vested employers</p>	<p>While formal approval has not yet been obtained for any I-BEST programs, efforts are underway with the Department of Corrections to implement one or two I-</p>

		BEST programs in the correctional education programs.
May 8 –10 Region 2	After CE is entered, who monitors or tracks parents participation? Who is responsible for Support Services during CE process?	DSHS provides support services and case manages the cases. Partners must notify DSHS when a parent does or does not complete the rest of the CE so the parent is reengaged as quickly as possible.
May 8 –10 Region 2	Can people be coded CJ & BE at the same time?	The full-time CJ component covers other activities the parent is participating in, such as adult basic education. There should only be a full-time CJ component opened when this is the case.
May 8 –10 Region 2	How do we identify CS and BE customers?	Assuming you mean CJST and basic education, parents may come to you asking for these types of education/training or this may be an option identified in the parent's comprehensive evaluation. Basic education cannot be approved unless it is supported in the parent's comprehensive evaluation. Before you approve CJST, you need to determine whether the parent is able to complete the course, through conversations with WF partners or as supported by a comprehensive evaluation. The goal is to approve education and training when it is the best path to employment.
May 8 –10 Region 2	CE Tool – ITD Question. The same questions are on the CE as the SW Assessment – Can it feed to the SW Assessment? Was this an issue with the pilot sites?	The system isn't currently designed to feed answers from the foundation to the assessment. This, however,

		will be considered as modifications are discussed in July. This was singled out as an issue in the CE test sites because they were using the screening & evaluation, not the CE foundation.
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From/Date	Question	Response
May 17 Region 6	When a parent files for UI they are: 1) monetarily eligible, 2) non-monetarily eligible. When does the time clock (10 days) start for the parent after both 1 and 2 are decided?	The 10 day clock starts once the CE foundation is begun. Nothing will be impacted by the UI application, until the worker finds out that the parent is monetarily eligible for UI.
May 17 Region 6	A discussion about how TANF parent who is applying and receiving UI Benefits and through the CE process has determined that they would go to school. How would that affect their UI Job Search requirement if they are on TANF and claiming UI?	There is a UI policy that allows for a program called Commissioner Approved Training (CAT) for UI claimants who are also in approved WorkFirst training. Getting CAT approval means the job search requirements for UI could be waived until training is completed.
May 17 Region 6	If eJAS crashes will CE in process save or not?	If the session is interrupted (for any reason) prior to the “save” button being activated, the CE will not save.
May 17 Region 6	If a parent is in CJ and wants education and training (in addition to CJ) would school count as a quarter since CJ is full time?	Basic Skills and GED can be combined with CJ and will not be counted as a quarter towards the education and training policies.
May 17 Region 6	I’m concerned about teens 18 and under and 21 and under for education possibilities. Up to what age are GED and High School Completion	Full-time basic education is allowable when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 18 or 19 years old

	options going to be available as a full time option?	<p>and is progressing and maintaining satisfactory attendance in high school or GED classes; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On a one-time basis only, for up to 12 months, when a person has fully participated in job search for 12 weeks without finding employment and it is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommended in the person's comprehensive evaluation; and, ○ Needed to become employed or get a better job.
May 17 Region 6	Do X codes count as community service – thus counting as a work activity per RCW?	RCW 74.08A.250 includes community services as a work activity and WAC goes on to define the term to include barrier removal activities (X codes).

From/Date	Question	Response
May 19 Region 6	Parent not participating, send good cause appointment. They don't show up for appointment, so we put them in sanction. Once they are in sanction, they come in and say they don't have child care. Do we immediately take out of sanction? If not, what would be the activity they would need to do for the 4 weeks to remove the sanction?	<p>No, the worker must follow the established sanction process.</p> <p>Look at the parent's situation that placed them in sanction. If they did not have childcare at that time, and are just telling us now, do a new IRP but do not remove the sanction.</p> <p>The cure will be a comprehensive evaluation and whatever activity is appropriate under the parent's current circumstances.</p>
May 19 Region 6	If the parent has a child over 4 months, but under one year old, is there ever a time we could sanction the parent?	Non-exempt parents, such as those parenting a child 4-12 months of age, are placed in sanction if they refuse to participate in their required WF

		activities. See the “sanction” section in Chapter 5.1, Pregnancy to Employment, in the WorkFirst Handbook for additional details.
May 19 Region 6	How will 4-week participation to cure sanction be counted? Will it be time within a program or a proven document activity daily? What will happen if they just start calling in with numerous excuses on a regular basis and 4 weeks elapses with little or no real participation?	<p>Parents must participate for 4 weeks in a row, without any unexcused absences, to end their sanction.</p> <p>As with any WorkFirst activity, participation must be verifiable and meet the standards set by the program / activity being performed or as required by the IRP.</p> <p>If the client performs 4 weeks but fails to meet the program or activity standards for participation, then the cure requirement has not been met.</p>
May 19 Region 6	Is there an age limit for parent on JS if children are under 18?	No, there are no age limits for parents in JS.
May 19 Region 6	What standards do colleges have to follow when submitting evaluation?	The standards for appropriate education and training options are included in the CASAS Appraisal Scores and Education & Training Options Matrix. Once the potential training options have been identified, additional criteria must also be satisfied in order to support education and training as an option. This information is gathered during educational interview. The specific criteria are listed in Appendix F-1.
May 19 Region 6	Does WorkFirst only see people who have children?	The basic definition of a WorkFirst participant is one who has dependent children.
May 19 Region 6	Can ESD use Oregon’s labor market provider list, as well as Washington’s provider list?	If this question is about using labor market information from another state: If a parent is looking for work in a neighboring state, that state’s labor market information would be helpful, and if readily available, should be

		<p>used.</p> <p>If this question has to do with recording employment in SKIES for employment obtained other than from a job referral attached to a SKIES job order: The identifying number could be a federal IRS ID number if known, although no number is required.</p>
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From/Date	Question	Response
May 15 –18 Region 1	How long is it estimated for GMAP to show results of the new plan with the collaborative CE's?	We are expecting to begin review of data as early as possible, as soon as it becomes available.
May 15 –18 Region 1	Do all categories need to be addressed in the Foundation?	Yes. The system will not allow a worker to save/finish the foundation unless all categories have been covered and fields requiring responses (text boxes included) complete. If a worker save/pends the foundation, it will not show up on the comprehensive evaluation caseload management report link, nor will the partnership be able to access the case.
May 15 –18 Region 1	Are we encouraging clients to “be all they can be” by lowering our expectations? The way it is set up, they only need to be compliant 8 weeks out of the year to get 13 months of services?	<p>The governor’s directive emphasizes that the intent of the policy is to encourage participation with the goal of achieving self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Are there going to be parents who will look at the policy and find loopholes; yes, but that is true of any policy that could be put in place. Staff are accountable to work with</p>

		these families and help them understand the benefits of participation.
May 15 –18 Region 1	How can we do a better job of addressing substance abuse during intake and initial interviewing?	Good question, to which, there isn't a right or wrong answer. The screening tools will help us gather critical information, but the key will be the rapport established between the worker and the individual. This will enable them to gain the trust needed to help the parent assess the services they may need. Also, utilize local co-located DASA staff person.
May 15 –18 Region 1	Using collateral evidence to make parents accountable, why don't we include CAGE-MASSI or other self reporting forms to the CE? Some parents may not be aware of the effects their substance use is having on their life and the family.	The tools utilized are key, but more important is the relationship the individual has with the people helping them through the process. Once established, this rapport will hopefully allow the person to feel comfortable disclosing and assessing needed services.
May 15 –18 Region 1	Is there a consistent way CSO's will document when/if a client is being deferred from CE, so there is clear information for the auditors, or will it transfer?	Unclear about the intent behind the question. No one (of events which trigger a CE) is permanently deferred from the CE process. If a person has an emergent issue requiring social worker intervention, the intent is that this person will resume the CE as soon as their circumstances allow. See the Criteria for Decision Making (in the Comprehensive Evaluation Chapter of the WorkFirst Handbook) and consult local supervisor for more direction.
May 15 –18 Region 1	What do we do if we have a client capable of 10 hours of job search, but 20 or more?	Parents must be able to participate in JS 20 or more hours a week. This reflects

		their ability to accept employment, which is the purpose of job search.
May 15 –18 Region 1	VE for one year for LPN program then VU and work study or work for the next year to complete 2 year program?	<p>No, not if the parent was enrolled in the LPN program (VE) on a full-time basis. If the parent attended on a full-time basis, his/her education and training opportunity ends after 12 months.</p> <p>If the parent combined work and education, the policy remains the same. The parent may attend for up to 12 months in a VE status with support services and childcare. The parent may continue to attend vocational education in a VU status, beyond the 12 months on and still meet the participation requirements as long as they continue to combine it with employment, 16 to 19 hours per week of federal or state work study or an approved internship/practicum.</p> <p>In order for a TANF parent who attended VE on a full-time basis to return for more education and training, the parent must secure employment and exit TANF. In this case, the Low Income Working Parent guidelines would apply which require employment or 16 to 19 hours per week of federal or state work study.</p>
May 15 –18 Region 1	What would happen if clients used 12 months of VE but continue to be in school with 20 hours of work? Are they meeting WF requirements?	No, not if the parent was enrolled in VE on a full-time basis. The goal of each education and training program is employment upon

		<p>completion. While on TANF, parents have a one-time opportunity for education and training.</p> <p>If the parent attended on a full-time basis, his/her education and training opportunity ends after 12 months.</p> <p>If the parent combined work and education, the policy remains the same. The parent may attend for up to 12 months in a VE status with support services and childcare. The parent may continue to attend vocational education in a VU status, beyond the 12 months on and still meet the participation requirements as long as they continue to combine it with employment, 16 to 19 hours per week of federal or state work study or an approved internship/practicum.</p> <p>In order for a TANF parent who attended VE on a full-time basis to return for more education and training, the parent must secure employment and exit TANF. In this case, the Low Income Working Parent guidelines would apply which require employment or 16 to 19 hours per week of federal or state work study.</p>
May 15 –18 Region 1	What is the time limit for WF Financial Aid?	<p>WorkFirst Financial Aid time limits mirror the WorkFirst education and training policies. If the TANF parent is attending on</p>

		<p>a full-time basis, WorkFirst Financial Aid for tuition and books would be available for up to 12 months. If the parent is attending on a part-time basis, WorkFirst Financial Aid for tuition and books would be available throughout the duration of the training program. WorkFirst Work Study is limited to 12 months. When enrolled in programs approved for federal financial aid, the parents are encouraged to apply for federal financial aid so that the colleges can serve as many parents as possible with their WorkFirst Financial Aid funds.</p>
May 15 –18 Region 1	Will there be a box that shows that the client has used the 12-month VE like the part-time infant exemption?	This did not come up during the requirement sessions but can be added to a future enhancement request.
May 15 –18 Region 1	Confidentiality: Learning Disability-for our purpose of documentation. Is it a disability issue or a mental health issue?	<p>Remember, <u>all</u> information in eJAS is confidential. For those LPAs who are screening for learning disabilities, the information would be included in the College Evaluation Section. It's important to note that a screening for learning disabilities is not a diagnosis, but the identification of possibilities. Also, as the colleges or their designees are acting on behalf of DSHS in the collection of this information as part of the WorkFirst program and the data is stored in their system, access to these records by the parent would follow the guidelines, which govern</p>

		DSHS.
May 15 –18 Region 1	Can “general studies” or college for AA degree be considered as “vocational” training for child care and meeting WF requirements if full time?	No. The programs must be vocational (professional/technical) programs and have an associated vocational Educational Program Code. The goal of each education and training program is employment upon completion. The only exception would be under High Wage/High Demand for a parent who, when coming onto TANF, is within one year of completion of an Associates Degree or higher. These exceptions are approved on a case-by-case basis. Again, as employment is the goal, the degree being pursued must meet the High Wage/High Demand local labor market criteria for approval.